

Serial No. 10/686,796

UTILITY PATENT

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Amend. In Resp. to Off. Act. of Feb. 6, 2008

B&D No. JK01410

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-19 (canceled).

Claim 20 (previously presented): A mechanism for securing a removable battery to a power tool, comprising:

a battery receiving portion including at least one upright member and flange forming a guide channel for receiving a corresponding rail included on a removable battery; and

a closure member slidably mounted to the battery receiving portion said closure member being configured to move between a locked position and a released position, said closure member including a generally angled surface directed toward the battery during connection of the battery to the power tool,

wherein the angled surface of the closure member, when in a locked position, is disposed within guide channel such that contact by the rail included on the battery automatically forces the closure member into a released position.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The mechanism of claim 20, further comprising means for biasing the closure member into the locked position.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The mechanism of claim 20, wherein the closure member is formed with a push-button directed towards the exterior of the power tool.

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Claim 23 (previously presented): The mechanism of claim 22, wherein depressing the push-button inwards toward the battery receiving portion disposes the closure member in the released position.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The mechanism of claim 20, wherein the received battery rail includes a chamfered leading edge of an upright member forming the rail.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The mechanism of claim 20, wherein the battery receiving portion is configured to support the power tool when no battery is connected.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The mechanism of claim 20, wherein a movement of the closure member between the locked position and the released position is generally transverse to the at least one channel guide.

Claims 27-39 (canceled).